



News for Immediate Release

October 21, 2011

Contacts:

Jennifer Lida, Information Officer
Scott Williams, Department of Water Resources

(916) 653-3925
(916) 653-5746

Protection of State Water Project From Encroachment to be Discussed

SACRAMENTO -- Proposed requirements for encroaching on property around State Water Project facilities will be discussed at a public meeting in Fairfield October 26.

Input will help the Department of Water Resources (DWR) develop encroachment permit specifics, as well as address mitigation for encroachments that interfere with inspection, repair, operation or maintenance of State Water Project (SWP) facilities. Encroachments include unauthorized buildings or other structures on right-of-way property.

No reservation is required for the 6-8 p.m. October 26 meeting, to be held in the City of Fairfield Community Center, 1000 Kentucky Street.

The State Water Project includes approximately 700 miles of canals and pipelines, from Oroville Dam in Butte County to Perris Dam in Riverside County. State Water Project information can be found at <http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/>. A map of the SWP is at <http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/docs/SWPmap.pdf>.

Water Code sections 12899 through 12899.11 authorize DWR to control, by way of an encroachment permit, access to the right of way property adjacent to, over, or under the State Water Project. DWR is granted the authority to promulgate regulations to control access, and to enforce the right of way to protect the physical integrity of any facility of the State Water Project, or prevent interference with the department's rights with regard to access, inspection, repair, or the operation and maintenance of any State Water Project facility. Water Code section 12899, *et seq.*

can be accessed free of charge at <http://law.onecle.com/california/water/12899.html>. Copies of the statute will also be provided at the meeting.

Persons unable to attend the October 26 briefing may submit questions or comments to Leroy Ellinghouse, Department of Water Resources, Room 641-2, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

Contact the [DWR Public Affairs Office](#) for more information about DWR's water activities.